ANNALS OF NATURAL HISTORY.

XXXI.—*On* Allium Porrum *and* A. Ampeloprasum. By Charles C. Babington, M.A., F.L.S., F.G.S., &c.

In my 'Primitiæ Floræ Sarnicæ,' p. 95, I have mentioned the great difficulty which exists in distinguishing between *A. Porrum* and *Ampeloprasum*, and am induced to communicate the following attempt at their discrimination to the 'Annals of Natural History,' in the hope that it may assist other botanists in determining the plants. Unfortunately the root is not usually to be found upon specimens of such large size as these leeks, for when that is present there can be no difficulty in distinguishing the species; the root of *A. Porrum* (the true leek,) being formed of numerous concentric coats like that of an onion, producing no offsets whatever, and therefore its duration being not more than biennial; whilst that of *A. Ampeloprasum* consists of a few concentric coats, including from two to four large offsets, and thereby somewhat resembling, in its transverse section, the bulb of a hyacinth, but having much larger offsets in proportion to the concentric coats. Happily the structure of the flowers, which at the first view appears similar in both plants, will supply us with excellent characters when examined with care. I have endeavoured in the wood cuts which accompany this short communication, to give some idea of the form of the germen, and of the form and proportions of the perigone and stamens in each plant. It will be seen that in both of them the germen is constricted at about the middle, but that in *A. Porrum* the constricted part is continued upwards, and in *A. Ampeloprasum* it is continued downwards; this is best seen at the time of flowering, as the enlargement of the fruit often nearly obliterates it, but will not be always found so strongly marked as in my figures. In the former the segments of the perigone are shorter than the common filament of the 3-pointed

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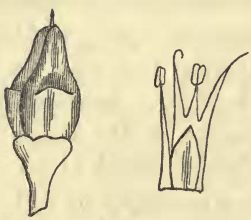
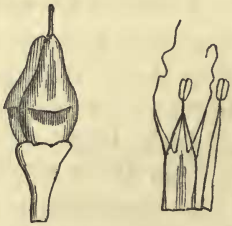
stamen, and the anther-bearing point is only half the length of either the common filament or of the barren points; but in the latter the segments of the perigone are longer than the common filament, to which the anther-bearing point is equal, but at the same time only one-third of the length of the barren points.

In Gaudin's Fl. Helv. v. ii. t. 11. the perigone of *A. Ampeloprasum* is figured as longer than the stamens, and thus not at all agreeing with our plant, which more resembles his figure of *A. rotundum*, t. 10, in which he represents (and at p. 482 describes) the stamens as longer than the perigone, differing in this from all other writers who have described *A. rotundum*, quoting Clusius, Hist. v. i. p. 196. (for 190.) for *A. rotundum* instead of *A. Ampeloprasum*, to which it is usually, and, as it appears to me, correctly referred, and omitting *A. Ampeloprasum*, Wald. and Kit. t. 82. which is generally considered as a good figure of *A. rotundum*. He has not given a representation of the root of *A. rotundum*, but those of *A. Porrum* and *Ampeloprasum* are pretty characteristic. I am not satisfied with his figures of the fruit.



1. *A. Porrum.*



2. *A. Ampeloprasum.*

It is remarkable that all the writers to whom I have referred describe the heads of both these species as bearing capsules and not bulbs; for I find that some individuals of the former produce bulbs on the head, amongst the flowers, in cultivation, and that the same is the case with the latter in a wild state in Guernsey.

I propose the following specific characters for these plants, both of which are distinguished from *A. rotundum* by their exserted stamens.

1. *A. Porrum* (Linn.). Caule ad medium folioso, foliis planis,

stamen, and the anther-bearing point is only half the length of either the common filament or of the barren points; but in the latter the segments of the perigone are longer than the common filament, to which the anther-bearing point is equal, but at the same time only one-third of the length of the barren points.

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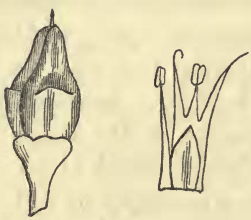

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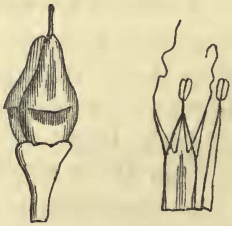

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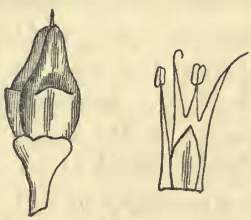

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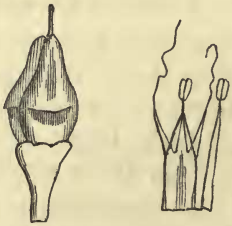

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umbella globosa capsulifera bulbiferave, filamentis 3 interioribus 3-cuspidatis perigonio paulo longioribus, cuspide antherifera filamento ipso cuspidibusque sterilibus duplo breviore, bulbis simplicibus. Pars superior germinis contracta et dorsum utriusque segmenti appendiculo transversali ascendente instructum.

2. *A. Ampeloprasum* (Linn.). Caule ad medium folioso, foliis planis, spatha elongata, umbella globosa capsulifera bulbiferave, filamentis 3 interioribus tricuspidatis perigonio paulo longioribus, cuspide antherifera filamentum ipsum subæquante cuspidibus sterilibus triplo breviore, bulbo e bulbulis paucis in tunica nidulantibus formato. Pars inferior germinis contracta et dorsum utriusque segmenti appendiculo transversali descendente instructum.

St. John's Coll., Cambridge, Nov. 1, 1839.

XXXII.—*Notice of some Fungi collected by* C. Darwin, Esq., *during the Expedition of H. M. Ship Beagle.* By the Rev. M. J. Berkeley, M.A., F.L.S.

[With Plates, No. VIII. and IX.]

The Fungi here noticed were placed in my hands some time since by Prof. Henslow. I am not certain whether they are all that were collected by Mr. Darwin, though it is probable, from the great mass of other matter upon his hands, that such is the case. Though the number is small, two of them at least are quite new, and the *Dædalea* is one of the most beautiful of its race.

1. *Polyporus sanguineus*, Meyer (No. 464).

Rio Janeiro. May.

2. *Stilbum lateritium*, n. s. Gregarious, bursting from beneath the bark, solitary or subfasciculate, pale brick-red; stems about 1 line high, thickest at the base and dusky; often confluent and flattened, pruinose from the presence of short curved obtuse flocci. Capitula ovate or subhemispherical, minutely setulose. Sporidia oblong.

Rio Janeiro. May. With the last. This is certainly very near to *Stilbum cinnabarinum*, Montagne, 'Ann. d. Sc. Nat.' n. s. vol. viii. p. 360, a species found in Cuba, of which I have

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